

Illegal-Immigrant Numbers Steady

By MIRIAM JORDAN *WSJ 2011*

A two-year decline in the number of illegal immigrants in the U.S. during the recession has halted, according to a new estimate by the Pew Hispanic Center.

The nonpartisan research group reported that 11.2 million undocumented immigrants lived in the U.S. in March 2010, compared with 11.1 million a year earlier; a difference Pew researchers said wasn't statistically significant. There were 12 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. in 2007, when the population peaked.

"That suggests the number of new unauthorized immigrants entering the country is balanced by those leaving," said Pew demographer Jeffrey Passel, lead author of the study. There is no evidence that illegal immigrants are moving out of the U.S. in growing numbers, he added.

The economy has been the primary factor behind recent demographic changes in the undocumented population, experts said.

"Clearly, the economy is central when people consider whether to leave their home countries," said Chris Newman, legal director of the National Day-laborer Organizing Network, which represents 43 day-laborer centers across the country. "As the economy rebounds and there's increased demand for their labor, we can expect them to come in larger numbers," he said.

Also constricting the flow of illegal immigrants are intensifying border security, including stiffer penalties for illegal entry, and steep fees charged by "coyotes," who smuggle people across the border.

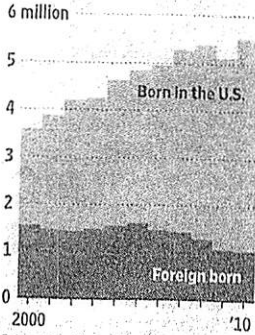
During a visit to El Paso, Texas, early this week, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said 20,700 agents, twice as many as in 2004, are guarding the U.S. border. Apprehensions of illegal crossers have declined 36% in the past two years, an indication that fewer people have been attempting to sneak into the U.S. from Mexico, she said.

"Unless you're sure that it's going to be worth it, you aren't going to risk coming," said Gordon Hanson, an immigration economist at the University of California, San Diego.

Border enforcement pressured many immigrants already in the U.S. to stay put rather than return to their country of origin, even temporarily, Mr. Hanson said. "You don't go home, unless

Family Ties

Number of children with at least one parent in the U.S. illegally, by place of birth



you aren't planning to come back," he said.

Even as it stabilizes, the size of the illegal population is still a third bigger than its level in 2000 of 8.4 million, and three times as large as in 1990, when it stood at 3.5 million.

The number of illegal immigrants in the work force, eight million in March 2010, was slightly below the year-earlier figure of 8.4 million, according to the Pew analysis.

The period reviewed in the Pew study ends before the economic recovery gained momentum late last year. Any uptick in housing construction is likely to benefit undocumented immigrants, who tend to be low-skilled workers.

Between 2000 and 2005, illegal immigrants were coming to the U.S. at a rate of 850,000 annually. That helped push the size of the undocumented population to a peak of 12 million in 2007. The inflow shrank to about 300,000 in 2008, according to Pew, amid the economic downturn.

At 11 million, undocumented immigrants account for 28% of the foreign-born population in the U.S. and 4% of the total U.S. population.

Children born to at least one illegal parent accounted for 8% of all births in the country between March 2009 and March 2010, according to the Pew analysis.

Pew's estimates are based on analysis of data from the Census Bureau and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Property developers turn to green-card program C6



Economic News Release

Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, and age

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, and age
[Numbers in thousands]

Employment status, race, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted ⁽¹⁾				
	July 2013	June 2014	July 2014	July 2013	Mar. 2014	Apr. 2014	May 2014	June 2014	July 2014
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	194,373	195,416	195,537	194,373	195,117	195,210	195,310	195,416	195,537
Civilian labor force	124,807	124,241	124,477	123,636	123,763	123,111	123,287	123,379	123,314
Participation rate	64.2	63.6	63.7	63.6	63.4	63.1	63.1	63.1	63.1
Employed	116,321	117,383	117,509	115,537	116,581	116,601	116,669	116,778	116,757
Employment-population ratio	59.8	60.1	60.1	59.4	59.7	59.7	59.7	59.8	59.7
Unemployed	8,486	6,858	6,968	8,100	7,183	6,510	6,618	6,600	6,557
Unemployment rate	6.8	5.5	5.6	6.6	5.8	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.3
Not in labor force	69,565	71,175	71,060	70,736	71,353	72,099	72,022	72,037	72,222
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	64,906	64,697	64,794	64,575	64,724	64,445	64,343	64,435	64,430
Participation rate	73.3	72.6	72.6	73.0	72.7	72.4	72.2	72.3	72.2
Employed	60,995	61,652	61,833	60,526	61,282	61,182	61,129	61,291	61,361
Employment-population ratio	68.9	69.2	69.3	68.4	68.9	68.7	68.6	68.8	68.8
Unemployed	3,911	3,045	2,961	4,049	3,441	3,264	3,214	3,144	3,069
Unemployment rate	6.0	4.7	4.6	6.3	5.3	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.8
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	54,204	54,194	54,077	54,437	54,509	54,277	54,520	54,454	54,356

see last page

Employment status, race, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted(1)					
	July 2013	June 2014	July 2014	July 2013	Mar. 2014	Apr. 2014	May 2014	June 2014	July 2014
Participation rate	58.0	57.7	57.6	58.3	58.1	57.9	58.1	58.0	57.9
Employed	50,794	51,523	51,129	51,321	51,597	51,730	51,864	51,847	51,695
Employment-population ratio	54.4	54.9	54.4	55.0	55.0	55.2	55.3	55.2	55.0
Unemployed	3,410	2,671	2,948	3,117	2,911	2,547	2,656	2,606	2,661
Unemployment rate	6.3	4.9	5.5	5.7	5.3	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.9
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	5,698	5,350	5,606	4,624	4,531	4,389	4,425	4,490	4,529
Participation rate	45.6	43.2	45.3	37.0	36.5	35.4	35.7	36.3	36.6
Employed	4,532	4,208	4,547	3,690	3,701	3,690	3,676	3,640	3,701
Employment-population ratio	36.2	34.0	36.7	29.5	29.9	29.8	29.7	29.4	29.9
Unemployed	1,165	1,143	1,059	934	830	699	749	850	827
Unemployment rate	20.5	21.4	18.9	20.2	18.3	15.9	16.9	18.9	18.3
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	30,390	30,821	30,856	30,390	30,719	30,755	30,787	30,821	30,856
Civilian labor force	18,825	18,992	19,249	18,653	18,756	18,720	18,715	18,791	19,025
Participation rate	61.9	61.6	62.4	61.4	61.1	60.9	60.8	61.0	61.7
Employed	16,311	16,885	16,895	16,310	16,437	16,556	16,564	16,784	16,853
Employment-population ratio	53.7	54.8	54.8	53.7	53.5	53.8	53.8	54.5	54.6
Unemployed	2,513	2,107	2,355	2,343	2,319	2,164	2,151	2,007	2,172
Unemployment rate	13.4	11.1	12.2	12.6	12.4	11.6	11.5	10.7	11.4
Not in labor force	11,565	11,829	11,607	11,736	11,963	12,035	12,072	12,029	11,832
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,450	8,674	8,753	8,433	8,496	8,435	8,496	8,592	8,671
Participation rate	67.7	68.1	68.6	67.6	67.0	66.4	66.8	67.5	68.0
Employed	7,398	7,752	7,749	7,382	7,470	7,522	7,519	7,660	7,704
Employment-population ratio	59.3	60.9	60.7	59.2	58.9	59.2	59.1	60.1	60.4
Unemployed	1,052	922	1,003	1,051	1,026	913	977	932	967
Unemployment rate	12.4	10.6	11.5	12.5	12.1	10.8	11.5	10.9	11.1
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	9,444	9,563	9,696	9,487	9,614	9,583	9,521	9,566	9,720
Participation rate	61.5	61.4	62.2	61.8	62.0	61.7	61.2	61.4	62.3
Employed	8,382	8,670	8,639	8,493	8,554	8,590	8,564	8,702	8,736

Employment status, race, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted ⁽¹⁾				
	July 2013	June 2014	July 2014	July 2013	Mar. 2014	Apr. 2014	May 2014	June 2014	July 2014
Employment-population ratio	54.6	55.7	55.4	55.3	55.1	55.3	55.1	55.9	56.0
Unemployed	1,063	893	1,056	994	1,060	993	957	864	984
Unemployment rate	11.3	9.3	10.9	10.5	11.0	10.4	10.0	9.0	10.1
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	930	755	801	734	646	701	698	632	634
Participation rate	36.3	30.1	32.0	28.6	25.6	27.9	27.8	25.2	25.3
Employed	531	463	506	435	413	443	481	421	413
Employment-population ratio	20.7	18.4	20.2	17.0	16.4	17.6	19.1	16.8	16.5
Unemployed	399	292	295	298	233	258	217	211	221
Unemployment rate	42.9	38.7	36.8	40.7	36.1	36.8	31.1	33.4	34.9
ASIAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,298	13,807	13,765	-	-	-	-	-	-
Civilian labor force	8,641	8,746	8,717	-	-	-	-	-	-
Participation rate	65.0	63.3	63.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employed	8,153	8,301	8,329	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employment-population ratio	61.3	60.1	60.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployed	488	445	389	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unemployment rate	5.7	5.1	4.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not in labor force	4,657	5,061	5,047	-	-	-	-	-	-

Footnotes

(1) The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups will not sum to totals shown in table A-1 because data are not presented for all races. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table of Contents

Last Modified Date: August 01, 2014

RECOMMEND THIS PAGE USING: Facebook Twitter LinkedIn

TOOLS

CALCULATORS

HELP

INFO

RESOURCES